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## SOUTHERN NEWS.

Gov. Brown, of Georgia, has sent in a message to the legislature of that State, in which he recommends the restriction of the cotton planting to a quarter of an acre to each hand, under a heavy penalty. He argues the necessity of the cause, presenting the possible scarcity of provisions; he recommends that further restrictions be put upon the distillation of spirits, so as to prevent the use of potatoes, peas, and dried peaches for that purpose. He opposes the indorsement of the bonds of the Confederate States by Georgia, as calculated to impair the confidence of capitalists, and injure the credit of the State at home and abroad. He says it could do the Confederacy no good. He recommends that Congress be requested to levy a tax to repay the interest on the whole debt, and create a sinking fund to extinguish the whole debt gradually. He urges a cordial support of the Confederate government and administration.

The Richmond Dispatch of the 27th notes the execution, by hanging, of Capt. Dehart, of Arkansas, who was sent out by Gen. Heron, to clear the White river district of Ingram's guerilla troops.

Capt. A. Webster has been tried by court martial in Richmond, and sentenced to be hung on the 3d of April, for the murder, in Loudoun county, of Capt. Simpson, of the Confederate army.

The railroad bridge over Holston river, at Zollicoffer, Tenn., which was destroyed by the Union army, has been repaired, and trains are now running over it.

At Lynchburg, on Wednesday, five grades of tobacco sold for \$2 50 per pound; smoking ranged from \$1 25 to \$1 75. The demand is greater than the supply.

Last Sabbath week, several officiating clergymen in Norfolk gave notice that their churches would be open on Friday, the 27th inst., for services, in conformity with Jeff. Davis's proclamation. The churches were accordingly opened, but as the worshippers began to congregate they found a strong guard of Federal soldiers placed at the church doors, and consequently no such services were allowed.

A Richmond paper says that Judge Meredith, of the Richmond Circuit Court, has decided that every citizen of Maryland, and every foreigner who had ever enlisted in the army—no matter for how short a time—had acquired a domicile, and were therefore liable to conscription, if between the ages of 18 and 45.

The Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser contains an appeal from Messrs. Yancey, Clay, Curry, and other Congressmen, addressed to the Southern people, urging them to plant corn, and raise hogs and beeves. The reports touching the scanty supplies in the South are here confirmed.

The Advertiser publishes an official advertisement of the commissary, applying to the public for supplies of food. He says he is authorized to give 50 cents per pound for bacon, or one and a half pounds of sugar for one of bacon.

A Washington letter, published at N. York, states that the question in regard to issuing letters of marque is still under consideration. The government has not, as has been stated, determined not to issue them.

## WAR NEWS.

On Saturday last, about 6 p. m., the Confederates burned the temporary bridge with which the Federal forces had replaced the noted "Stone Bridge" over Bull Run, destroyed in the first campaign that occurred there. It was believed on the front that the Confederates contemplated a raid either into Loudoun or upon Vienna, the weight of the information obtainable indicating that the 1st, 6th, and 7th Virginia cavalry under Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, were about Front Royal with their horses concealed in the woods, and their scouts and pickets ranging down among the Bull Run Mountains.

A letter from Hilton Head, dated the 25th, says:—"This morning, all the monitors, six in number, left this point, together with several wooden gunboats, and half a dozen schooners. The Eriesson has just arrived here with a floating nondescript in tow, called 'The Devil.' Its purpose is understood to be to clear the channel of torpedoes and other obstructions."

An arrival from New Orleans brings the Federal account of the recent affair at Port Hudson. The number of the vessels in the fleet engaged in the movement is not given, only six, the Hartford, Albatross, Monongahela, Richmond, Essex and Mississippi being named. The two first succeeded in passing the batteries, the Monongahela, Richmond and Essex were repulsed, and the Mississippi run aground under fire from the Confederate works and was abandoned and destroyed, as previously reported. Sixty-four of the crew of the Mississippi are missing, forty-two of whom are prisoners and the remainder supposed to be killed. The Confederate accounts claimed that thirty-seven only were captured. The Richmond lost three killed and seven wounded, and the Monongahela seven killed and 21 wounded. It appears that Gen. Bank's forces advanced, the Confederates falling back before them to Port Hudson. Some skirmishing occurred, when the Federal forces in turn fell back, returning to Baton Rouge. Gen. Banks announcing that the object of the expedition had been accomplished. It is understood the movement was for the purpose of a diversion to enable Admiral Farragut to pass the batteries, but another account says that information was received that the Confederates intended to attack Baton Rouge, necessitating the retrograde movement. A party sent out to gather produce, it is reported, has returned to Baton Rouge, having secured a considerable quantity of cotton, sugar and molasses. Several members of the Confederate signal corps were captured by the expedition. The Confederates, it is said, have a force in reserve which can readily be thrown either into Vicksburg or Port Hudson, as occasion may require.

A press dispatch received at Cincinnati from Murfreesboro' states that Savannah, Tenn., and Grenada, Miss., are in possession of the Federal forces. Gen. Grant's army, it says, is surrounding Vicksburg.

A Memphis dispatch says that positive information has been received there that the Sunflower river expedition has arrived safely at its destination, and that the force under Gen. Sherman has been landed above Haines' Bluff.

A Louisville dispatch states that it is reported that Gen. Humphrey Marshall, at the head of a heavy Confederate infantry force, is near Mount Sterling. The citizens are moving towards Lexington.

Nothing had been received by the Navy Department up to noon yesterday, confirmatory of the reported passage of gunboats and transports through the Vicksburg canal, nor of the rumored success in the capture of Greenwood.

Thomas C. Schachlett, of Meade county, Kentucky, indicted for treason, in the United States Circuit Court, has been on trial since Friday last, and yesterday a verdict of guilty was rendered against him.

An order has been issued by Gen. Schenck directing that Confederate officers and soldiers hereafter captured, either within the lines or otherwise, wearing any article of clothing, or any accoutrement, belonging to the usual uniform of a Union officer or soldier, so as to make such Confederate officer or soldier appear as an officer or soldier of the United States, shall not be held or considered as a prisoner of war, but shall be treated and dealt with as a spy. And proof of the possession and wearing, by a Confederate officer or soldier, of such Union uniform, shall be taken to be sufficient evidence, in itself, of his character of a spy, by any court martial, or Military Commission, before which he may be ordered for trial.

The Washington Chronicle says:—"Parties who arrived yesterday from the army of the Potomac contradict the reports that the Confederate army have evacuated their former position beyond Fredericksburg. Their tents can be seen stretched for miles, and it is probable that the great bulk of Lee's army is still in front."

The New Orleans Era, of the 27th, reports over 2,000 bales of cotton received during the past week, most of which had been carefully concealed for months.

The blockade at Galveston is still rigid. The Harriet Lane is still in the harbor, and her being iron-clad is mere supposition.

It has long been known that vast quantities of silver have for centuries been carried to India, and that there it disappeared out of the circulation of the world, like pebbles down a cavern. It is said that in the last twenty-five years alone, \$550,000,000 have gone thither, of which \$450,000,000 have thus disappeared.

Washington Offut, late a major in the Confederate service, returned to the residence of his relatives, in Georgetown, on Friday last, by some means unknown, so far, to the authorities. He was brought there suffering from a bayonet wound in the groin. The provost guard have him in charge.

The steamer Bio Bio has been destroyed by fire at New Orleans.